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17 AIRGRAM			A-19		CONFIDENTIAL	
TO : Department of State			FROM : Amembassy BONN		DATE: July 10, 1963	
INFO: All Consulates, USBER and USAREUR for POLAD			SUBJECT: The Functions of the State Secretary in the Chancellor's Office and the Question of State Secretary Globke's Successor		REF: Embairgram 1701 of Feb. 12, 1963	
<p>Professor Theodor Eschenburg, a leading academic expert on the political institutions of the Federal Republic, not long ago addressed himself once again to the role the State Secretaries play on the Bonn scene (see Embairgram 1701). In an article in the weekly newspaper, <u>Die Zeit</u>, June 14, Eschenburg focused on the functions and special importance of the State Secretary in the Chancellor's Office. Choosing a successor to the present incumbent, Dr. Hans Globke, will be the most important appointment, Eschenburg remarks, which the next Chancellor will have to make. Karl Gumbel is still believed to have the inside track (Embairgram 2480), but in recent speculation (which finds some echo in the press) the second State Secretary in the Foreign Office, Rolf Lahr, has been mentioned as having chances.</p> <p>Eschenburg stresses that the State Secretary in the Chancellor's Office is actually the State Secretary of the Federal Government, with competence above and beyond that of the other State Secretaries. Upon him falls the responsibility of seeing to it that the decisions of the government are carried out; in practice, this means that he must seek to counteract the centrifugal tendencies latent among the various ministries and to give clear direction to the government's activities. 1/ Eschenburg, who is not an uncritical adulator of</p> <p>1/ The functions of "the State Secretary of the Government" in this respect are described in detail in the "Rules of Procedure" (Geschaeftsordnung) of the Federal Government. He is authorized to distribute correspondence addressed to the Chancellor or letters from the Federal President directly to the Ministers concerned. (Section 7) He prepares the meetings of the Federal Government, fixes the agenda, receives from the individual Ministers their papers for distribution to the other Ministers and submission to the Federal Government. (Section 21)</p>			FORM 4-62 DS-322		CS COPY CONFIDENTIAL	
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Chancellor Adenauer's regime, given Globke high marks for his effectiveness in filling this coordinating function. He writes: "It is Globke's contribution, that the office of the Federal Chancellor has become a really effective staff headquarters for coordination and supervision. Today, with its thirty carefully selected, qualified officials, it is one of the best-functioning Federal agencies." It is the Chancellor's high regard for Globke's administrative qualities which (according to Eichenburg) explains his stubborn support of his State Secretary against long-sustained attack, which has reached its climax in the show trial that opened in East Berlin July 8.

Eichenburg notes with alarm signs that the CDU/CSU Fraktion would like to bring the office of the State Secretary in the Chancellery under its control and may seek to bargain with Erhard on this point in the period of transition. He also notes that the FDP, as part of the coalition arrangements, may seek to expand its influence within this select central body. Any such tendencies, he says, must be firmly resisted, and this may well present Erhard with one of his major tests at the outset of his period in office. Globke's successor should not be a politician, Eichenburg argues, but a man enjoying the trust of the Chancellor, who can be depended upon to advise him critically and courageously. Nor should the other posts in the Secretariat be allowed to become counters for political bargaining among the coalition partners.

COMMENT: Although Globke has been much in the public eye, and the subject of bitter attack, both in Germany and abroad because of his record under the Nazis, his performance as State Secretary as such has been remarkably little criticized. The officials who work under him are not much known to the public, although their position of proximity to the Chancellor affords them opportunities for exceptional influence. A means through which Globke has been able to achieve the smooth functioning of his office has been the regular, but unpublicized meeting with other State Secretaries over which Globke has presided. Another little-publicized function of Globke has been his role, on the one hand, as supervisor of the German intelligence system and on the other hand, as top coordinator of the German intelligence services with the Allied intelligence community. The question of his successor is closely linked with that of suitability and experience for the intelligence functions of the office. Among Gumbel's attributes, which supposedly have made him a leading candidate for the succession, is his experience with intelligence matters during his earlier (1949-1955) service in the Chancellor's office.

For the Ambassador:

*Coburn Kild*  
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